

Attorney General's Office

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The mission of the Office of the Attorney General is to serve the residents of Wyoming by providing the highest quality services, including legal advice and representation to state and local government, criminal investigation, statewide law enforcement training and certification and assistance to victims of crime. The office also protects the state's resources and the right of its residents to be free from corruption in government and fraud in the use of public funds.

Staff will carry out their duties in an ethical, professional and timely manner. The office is committed to using taxpayer resources efficiently and effectively, while providing quality professional services. The office's most valued resource is its staff, who are prepared to meet future challenges and responsibilities with a strong work ethic and common sense.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

FY00 results of outcomes included:

- 100 criminal appeals;
- 23 post conviction writs/actions;
- 337 pre-filed reviews;
- 128 extradition/detainers;
- 43 reviews of requests for pardons/restoration of rights;
- 56 prisoner case filings tracked;
- 429 consumer complaints;
- 2,043 consumer telephone inquiries;
- \$63,130 refunds recovered for consumers;
- \$64,588 money saved for consumers;
- 24 new tort lawsuits opened;
- 61 new governmental claims files opened;
- 850 contested workers' compensation matters;
- 27 workers' compensation appeals;
- 48 Internal Hearing Unit and Miscellaneous Litigation cases;
- \$807,000 recovered for Workers' Compensation fund from third party subrogation;
- \$700,000 in benefit waivers negotiated for Workers' Compensation fund;
- 20 new Medicaid fraud cases opened;
- 16 new patient abuse in Medicaid-funded facility cases opened;
- 1,666 cases handled by the crime laboratory;
- 285,210 persons indexed in criminal history file;
- 39,545 fingerprint card submissions;
- 6,256 concealed firearm permits issued;
- 776 criminal investigations, which included 653 controlled substances investigations;
- 83 Crime Victims' Compensation awards totaling \$1,542,871;

General information

Gay Woodhouse, Attorney General

Agency contact

Vicci M. Colgan
307/777-7844
123 Capitol Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Other locations

Douglas, Casper, Riverton, Jackson, Green River, Gillette

Year established

1886

Statutory references

Wyo. Stat. §§ 1-40-102 through 119; 1-40-201 through 210; 1-40-303 through 1-40-308; 9-1-601, et. seq.; 9-1-611 through 627; 9-1-632 through 635; 9-1-636 through 9-1-638; 9-1-702 through 708

Number of authorized personnel

182 full-time, two part-time

Organizational structure

Law Office, Criminal Investigations, Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy, Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission, Victim Services Division

Clients served

State agencies, boards and commissions, elected and appointed state officials, law enforcement agencies, legislators, prosecutors, consumers, crime victims

Budget information

General fund	\$9,775,278
Federal	7,735,571
Other	4,620,898
Total	\$22,131,747

- 221 law enforcement officers who attended basic training for 59,792 basic training hours;
- 1,786 law enforcement officers who attended 67 advanced training classes representing 34,904 advanced training hours;
- 13 qualified civilians (pre-service program) who attended basic training;
- 10 instructor development classes offered by the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy, attended by 175 officers/instructors representing 35 departments;
- 59 uses of Law Enforcement Academy, totaling 5,317 occupancy days
- 685 POST-certified (Peace Officers Standards and Training) special schools that conducted 109,836 training hours to peace officers and detention, communications and inactive officers;
- 1,318 recertifications issued by POST for peace officers, detention officers, dispatchers, coroners and deputies;
- nine basic training classes certified by POST;
- 824 applications for in-service training received and certified by POST for 10,883 training hours; and
- 258 tests administered by POST to applicants seeking employment in law enforcement

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

No changes in objective or strategies are planned for the Attorney General's Office.

Law Office

General information

Gay Woodhouse, Attorney General

Agency contact

Vicci M. Colgan
307/777-7844
123 Capitol Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Other Locations

Casper

Year Established

1886

Statutory references

Wyo. Stat. § 9-1-601, et. seq.

Number of authorized personnel

64 full-time, one part-time

Organizational structure

Civil Division, Administrative Law Division, Tort Litigation, Water and Natural Resources Division, Criminal Division, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

Clients served

State agencies, boards and commissions, elected and appointed state officials, law enforcement agencies, legislators, prosecutors, consumers, crime victims

Budget information

Objective 1	\$2,328,994
Objective 2	665,427
Objective 3	2,661,708
Objective 4	118,121
Objective 5	\$337,811

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Law Office's mission is to serve the residents of Wyoming by providing the highest quality services, including legal advice and representation to state and local government, criminal investigation, statewide law enforcement training and certification, and assistance to victims of crime. The office also protects the state's resources and the right of its residents to be free from corruption in government and fraud in the use of public funds.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

During FY00, the Law Office continued to handle in-house the majority of contested matters.

The consumer affairs attorney handled 429 consumer complaints and 2,043 consumer telephone calls. The attorney obtained \$63,130 in refunds for consumers and saved approximately \$64,588 for consumers.

The criminal division handled 100 criminal appeals and 23 post-conviction writs/actions. The litigation division handled 27 workers' compensation appeals in the Wyoming Supreme Court.

As people become more litigious and the costs of litigation increases, it remains a challenge to handle all of the contested cases and litigation with existing staff and resources.

Personnel disputes continue to be an important field; the office now has two full-time attorneys devoted to this area of practice.

The Administrative Law Division was formed in early 1999. It provides ongoing advice to four major agencies, two elected officials and other smaller agencies, and it represents them in hearings, trials and appeals in state and federal courts. The division has prepared approximately 124 legal opinions and memos and has been involved in at least 516 court and administrative cases.

The Civil Division provides ongoing legal advice to all or part of three major state departments. The Civil Division also represents a number of separate operating agencies and 26 professional licensing boards and commissions. It is estimated that the Health Section of this division reviews approximately 1,000 contracts per year for the Department of Health, Department of Family Services and Department of Education. The Civil Division handled 280 requests for opinions during FY00 and reviewed 337 bills for the governor.

The Litigation Division provides legal advice to client agencies in several significant areas. Like other attorneys in other divisions, Litigation Division personnel are called upon to track legislation during the session and to advise the governor on bills that are passed in areas affecting their client agencies or on subjects in which they have expertise. Two attorneys in this division act as legal advisor to all state department directors, administrators and personnel officers for all of state government in matters of employment and personnel law.

With health care fraud remaining the number two national crime issue, second only to violent crime, the Wyoming Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) has focused on educating providers, law enforcement and the public about the MFCU's role and responsibilities in combating fraud and abuse and about the growing issues of abuse and neglect of the elder and disabled populations. During FY00, the Wyoming MFCU gave 37 presentations to approximately 1,200 individuals. During FY00, the number of abuse/neglect referrals to the MFCU doubled, but the number of fraud referrals has declined from the prior year. During FY00, the Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Medicaid, reorganized and restructured. It is anticipated that the number of fraud referrals will return to the consistent number established from 1996 to 1999 once the Medicaid agency's reorganization and restructuring has taken effect.

The Wyoming MFCU meets the minimum staffing requirements of federal law. The staff consists of the unit's director who is an attorney and is cross-designated as an assistant United States Attorney, an investigator who is cross-designated as a Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation agent, an auditor and a paralegal. The Wyoming MFCU remains the smallest MFCU in the nation but served as host for the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units' annual meeting in Jackson Hole in September 2000.

In December of 1999, the federal law expanded the jurisdiction of the MFCU to include the investigation or prosecution of fraud and abuse committed in board and care facilities and in any federal health care program if the investigation began or is based on Medicaid fraud and is coordinated with the Office of Inspector General. The Wyoming MFCU is actively involved in several global investigations and global settlements, as well as in investigation and prosecution of Medicaid fraud, abuse and maltreatment within state boundaries.

The increased workload in the area of contested cases, the review of complex contracts for agencies and the increased numbers of personnel cases place a significant burden on existing resources.

Criminal appeals continue to increase. The Legislature, in its 1999 session, funded an additional attorney to handle death penalty cases.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

No changes in objective or strategies are planned for the Attorney General's Office.

Victim Services

General information

Sharon Montagnino, Director

Agency contact

Sharon Montagnino
307/777-7200
2301 Central Ave.
Barrett Building 4th Floor
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Year established

1998

Statutory references

Wyo. Stat. §§ 1-40-102 through 119; 1-40-201 through 210; 1-40-303 through 1-40-308; 9-1-636 through 9-1-638.

Number of authorized personnel

Eight

Organizational structure

Division of the Attorney General's Office

Clients served

All victim survivors of crime

Budget information

Objective 1	\$3,602,502
Objective 2	678,813

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

Victim Services' mission is to improve the treatment of all victim survivors and witnesses of crime by providing them with assistance, financial compensation, information, referral, support services and advocacy, which are essential to their restoration.

The division achieves this through the Victims' Compensation Program and by promoting the development of a comprehensive range of quality services for all victim survivors and witnesses of crime at the state, county and local levels.

The Victims' Compensation Program

The compensation program is committed to helping victim survivors and their families by easing the financial burdens caused by the emotional and physical devastation of a crime. This is primarily accomplished through the processing of compensation claims submitted for the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses the victim has incurred due to the crime. Many of these expenses are medical, counseling, loss of earning or support, or funeral, and are for expenses that remain after all other resources have been exhausted. The program consists of an application and review process through which eligible victims of crime receive compensation. Every effort is

made to seek restitution from the offender and subrogation from the claimant. The statute requires that the division inform the public about the compensation program available to victims of crime. The division has developed a partnership with victim service advocates to participate in community awareness programs about the existence of the division's services, including compensation.

Victim Services Program

The Victim Services Program provides training and technical assistance, manages federal funds to address all victim survivors of crime and violent crimes against women and administers grants under both state and federal victim statutes. The division provides resources — either in the form of financial support or technical assistance — to enhance services to victim survivors, improve victim service agencies and enhance communities' awareness. The division distributed both VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) and VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) funds to local service providers through a competitive grant process. These funds support victim/witness advocates, family violence prevention advocates and special programs in 30 different locations throughout the state, including the Wind River Indian Reservation. These funds further help support system-based victim survivor programs at the local level and on the reservation, bringing providers together to participate in training, discussions on restorative justice and discussions on other victim survivor/offender issues. All of these programs provide important resources to help victim survivors through the disruption in their lives caused by crime. The division monitors the grants by site visits, by regular meetings/trainings and through program standards and federal grant requirements.

By statute, the division is required to provide a statewide system of shelter programs for victim survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. The VAWA funds administered by the division specifically provide funding to law enforcement officials, prosecutors' offices, and victim service professionals so they may work to improve the criminal justice system's response to violence against women and to enhance the services available to women who are victims of violent crime, particularly domestic violence and sexual assault crimes. General funds administered by the division are distributed through a formula to the 23 family violence programs that serve as primary advocates for the needs of domestic violence and sexual assault victims. Funds are used to provide shelter services, crisis intervention, referral services, prevention education and services to children. All family violence programs, in order to receive and maintain state funding, must be in compliance with the minimum standards set forth by the division.

Likewise, the division is working toward a statewide system of victim assistance programs to improve the delivery of service to victims of crimes other than domestic violence and sexual assault.

These programs generally operate out of the county/district attorneys' offices or law enforcement offices. Their work involves working with victim survivors as the cases move through the criminal justice system.

The division's participation in both the AmeriCorps and VISTA programs provides for placement of volunteers in programs across the state. Volunteers may work directly with victims as advocates, assist shelter programs in fund raising, develop volunteer recruitment and training, and serve as leaders in prevention education programs within schools and communities. Having these programs available in each county attempts to ensure that victims of crime receive information and direct services and are referred to other appropriate community resources.

❖ Results of outcomes

In 1999-2000 the division reviewed and awarded 32 VOCA grants totaling \$897,452 and 51 VAWA grants totaling \$645,419.

The Division Advisory Committee has developed protocols for both prosecution and law enforcement dealing with domestic violence.

The division sponsored its second annual Victim Services Conference with 170 attendees representing law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates and child advocates. This conference was cosponsored by Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming with a major focus on providing services to children who are abused or are witnesses to violence and also received some funding assistance from the Department of Family Services.

The compensation program received 367 claims, awarded 286 and denied 82. There are 119 claims being processed or awaiting a decision.

Training on the compensation program, victim services and victims' rights continues to be offered to law enforcement, courts, shelter programs, Sheriffs and Chiefs Association and community groups.

The division continues to maintain a Web page providing information on compensation, training and technical assistance to providers, a statewide listing of crime victim service providers and links to other victim-oriented sites.

The division continues to work with the newly formed Domestic Violence Elimination (DoVE) Council on legislative issues surrounding domestic violence, orders of protection and the effects of domestic violence on children and communities.

During the 2000 Legislative Session, the division worked with the Attorney General's Office, Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, United Victims Advocate Network and the governor's DoVE Council, to successfully seek the passage of HB60, amendments to the domestic violence statute; SF46, Crime Victims Restitution; and SF003, domestic abuse penalties enhancing penalties for assault and battery against household members.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

Ensure, through technical assistance, training and funding, that baseline services to all victims of crime exist in all 23 counties and on the Wind River Reservation.

Continue to improve the delivery and timeliness of compensation awards to eligible victims.

Division of Criminal Investigation

General information

Thomas J. Pagel, Director

Agency contact

Sandra C. Mays, Deputy Director, Crime Lab
Stephen J. Miller, Deputy Director, Operations
James M. Wilson, Deputy Director, Criminal Justice Information Section (CJIS)
307/777-7181
316 West 22nd St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Other locations

Casper, Gillette, Riverton, Jackson, Green River; satellite offices in Sheridan, Powell, Evanston

Year established and reorganized

Established 1973; reorganized 1986, 1989

Statutory references

Wyo. Stat. § 9-1-611 through 627

Number of authorized personnel

75

Organizational structure

Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Information, Crime Laboratory, Executive Protection, Capitol Police

Clients served

Local, state and federal criminal justice agencies, state agencies, governor, Legislature, residents of Wyoming

Budget information

Objective 1	\$6,437,391
Objective 2	323,500
Objective 3	1,176,438
Objective 4	\$2,118,304

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Division of Criminal Investigation's (DCI) mission is to continually provide a cadre of highly

motivated professionals, dedicated to ensuring that DCI meets its statutory responsibilities; assists in other appropriate areas; acts as a catalyst in cooperative and coordinated law enforcement efforts among federal, state and local agencies; and provides these exceptional services with a positive attitude and in a timely manner.

The philosophy of the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation is that all Wyoming residents should feel safe and secure in their homes and communities. DCI will contribute to this feeling of security by providing quality law enforcement services with employees dedicated to the highest ethical and professional standards. DCI recognizes its employees as its most valuable asset and uses participatory management principles to meet the challenges of providing timely and exceptional services to the law enforcement needs of the state.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

The regional enforcement teams continue to be a fine example of cooperation, coordination and communication among local, state and federal law enforcement agencies investigating drugs and violent crimes. They have dismantled many major organized drug trafficking rings and investigated high profile homicides. Their regional locations enable them to respond in a timely manner to requests for assistance.

Computer crimes, including both fraud and child pornography, are rapidly becoming a busy area within the division. This is a gap service that many local law enforcement agencies are not able to investigate. The division received a major Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) grant, which enables it to effectively respond to this growing problem and provide training to local law enforcement agencies.

The DNA database continues to grow with more than 5,000 on file and 4,600 entered into the national Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) database. Wyoming has already experienced successes where submissions of samples from other states were matched to samples entered by Wyoming.

Expanded responsibilities continue to add to the backlog in the Criminal Justice Information Section. The registration of sex offenders program now has a Web site that is operational for high-risk offenders. The site shows photographs and specific information on sex offenders the courts have designated as having a high risk of re-offending.

The Concealed Firearms Permit program is operating smoothly and the division is now into the renewal process. Other programs that contribute to the backlog are the fingerprint requirements for licensing and regulation of teachers, nurses, etc.

The Division of Criminal Investigation is in the process of attaining professional accreditation for both the investigations and crime laboratory sections. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) has established professional standards for law enforcement agencies.

This process requires an examination of all policies, procedures, systems and facilities. Upon completion of this review, an inspection team will come to Wyoming to examine the operation. National recognition and accreditation follows a successful inspection.

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLAD) provides a similar service for crime laboratories. The Crime Laboratory is also in the process of reviewing policies, procedures and facilities to meet its requirements. An inspection team will then visit the crime laboratory and examine the operation. National recognition and accreditation follows a successful inspection.

The division is confident that it will meet the standards that have been established and attain the national accreditation offered by both organizations.

Methamphetamine continues to be a tremendous problem in Wyoming and the other western states. It is currently responsible for approximately 60 percent of DCI's substance abuse caseload. The division continues to see large shipments of methamphetamine smuggled into Wyoming by Mexican drug organizations operating directly out of Mexico. Clandestine methamphetamine laboratories are operating within Wyoming at an increased rate. The division continues to work closely with the Governor's Substance Abuse and Violent Crime Advisory Board in developing the Wyoming Methamphetamine Initiative and addressing this problem.

Retention of professional employees and the ability to attract qualified applicants have been major problems at DCI. Turnover rates are unacceptable and contribute to backlogs in the crime laboratory. This situation has been partially addressed by the salary increases effective September 2000. It is important that this compensation plan continues.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

No changes in objectives or strategies are planned for DCI.

Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy

General information

Ernest L. Johnson,
Law Enforcement Academy Administrator

Agency contact

Michael A. Grinstead, Supervisor/Manager 2
307/358-3617
1556 Riverbend Drive
Douglas, WY 82633
wlea@wyomingcops.com

Year established

1981

Statutory references

W.S. §§ 9-1-632 through 635

Number of authorized personnel

32 full-time, one part-time

Organizational structure

Division of the Attorney General's Office

Clients served

Wyoming law enforcement officers, Wyoming detention officers, Wyoming communications personnel, coroners and their deputy coroners. The academy also actively recruits potential pre-service/civilians and practicum/college candidates to pay their own way through basic training. Facility users are local, state and federal government personnel.

Budget information

Objective 1	\$920,570
Objective 2	513,542
Objective 3	\$105,730

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy provides training for law enforcement agencies and coroners throughout Wyoming. These personnel come under the provisions of the Peace Officer Standards and Training Act (W.S.S. 9-3-1901 through 1907) the Coroners Training Act (W.S. 9-1-634) and Communications Training (W.S. 9-1-635).

In addition to the basic courses specifically designed for peace officers, detention officers, coroners and communications personnel, the academy offers a wide variety of training courses dealing with any or all specialty areas relative to law enforcement officers, supervisors, mid-management and executive positions. These statutes (stated above) prescribe basic and advanced training for approximately 2,400 personnel of the county sheriffs' offices, municipal police departments, State Highway Patrol, Division of Criminal Investigation, college or campus officers, communications personnel and coroners. Wyoming statutes also prescribe "continuing educational training" every two years for each career group.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

One hundred percent of the legislatively mandated basic training responsibilities were met in FY00. Basic Training was conducted for 221 candidates. The total basic training hours scheduled and conducted for FY00 was 59,792. There were no qualified students or pre-service candidates backlogged. The basic

training for qualified civilians (Pre-Service Program) was offered to 13 persons in FY00.

During FY00, the academy trained 1,786 officers through 67 advanced training classes representing 34,904 advanced training hours.

To help agencies be even more self-reliant in meeting their advanced training needs, the academy offered 10 instructor development classes, attended by 175 officers/instructors who represented 35 departments. Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) statistics indicate Wyoming law enforcement agencies hosted, without academy support, 685 POST-certified special schools in all areas — peace officers, detention, communications and inactive officers — for 109,836 training hours in FY00.

The academy received direct reimbursement from 21 governmental users who in turn used the facility 59 times. The facility usage totaled 5,317 occupancy days for FY00.

“Outreach Services” for law enforcement training was implemented July 1, 1999. The one-year funding provided for the implementation of this expanded training service was requested by law enforcement administrators and approved by the Legislature. Outreach services included 10 courses for a total of 2,799 training hours. Eight regional Specialized Training, Testing And Reporting (STAR) systems have been established in the state, and law enforcement officers have been trained 56 hours using the system (training using video/computers). Eighteen different topic courses are available in the catalog. A full user training needs assessment was conducted as well as a domestic violence four-hour update.

Planning and equipment research was implemented for classroom remodel enhancements to include lecterns with present day technology (computers, satellite, compressed video and the Internet). A portion of the equipment for this project was purchased from partnership grants in concert with Eastern Wyoming Technology Center, a partnership of educators in eastern Wyoming. The Training Resource Center (TRC) is located at the academy and houses 28 computers for training of trainers or use in student forums acceptable to the partnered agencies in the consortium. TRC usage included five Academy Basic classes with 1,562 technology users; two academy special schools with 72 technology users; three law enforcement agency users, which included use by 186 technology students; and nine additional uses by schools or other approved users of the Eastern Wyoming Consortium, which included 183 technology students.

Agency concerns include the creation of a long-term stable source of funding so academy programs can again grow, with provisions for short- and long-term maintenance of the academy facility. Building settlement continues on the main facility. The Facility Management Division is in possession of a professional assessment of \$1.3 million of deferred maintenance and structural settlement issues. Facility deferred maintenance/repairs beyond the

minor preventative measures provided for in the agency budget cannot occur without a sizeable funding assignment.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

The academy will diversify the delivery of outreach courses through method or media for law enforcement specialized training courses.

Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission

General information

Donald B. Pierson, Executive Director

Agency contact

Donald B. Pierson
307/777-7718
1710 Pacific Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Year established

1976

Statutory references

Wyo. Stat. §§ 9-1-702 through 708

Number of authorized personnel

Three

Organizational structure

Division of the Attorney General's Office

Clients served

Law enforcement, Wyoming peace officers, detention officers, dispatchers, coroners and deputy coroners, peace office applicants

Budget information

Objective 1 \$142,896

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (POST) is a division under the Attorney General's Office. Its mission is to serve the residents of Wyoming by providing the highest quality of services, including certifying law enforcement training, entry-level testing and basic and advanced levels of certification and recertification.

POST will carry out its duties in an ethical, professional and timely manner. POST is committed to using taxpayer resources efficiently and effectively, while providing quality professional services. POST's most valued resource is its staff, which is prepared to

meet future challenges and responsibilities with a strong work ethic and common sense.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

POST received and processed 342 initial employment forms from agencies throughout the state; 137 were peace officers employed and 87 of these are still on temporary status. The other 50 have completed their initial training and have been certified at the appropriate level in the certification system. One hundred ten were detention officers employed and 58 of those are still on temporary status. Seventy-six were dispatchers employed and 42 are still on temporary status. Mandated employment standards have been developed and are in place for all of the above personnel employed in the state. POST verifies that those standards have been met before it issues certification. Peace officers, detention officers, dispatchers and coroners who are employed in Wyoming, but have completed the required basic training in other states, are granted reciprocity if that training is comparable to Wyoming's basic training. POST makes that determination after reviewing the training files and curriculum. Those people are then allowed to challenge the Wyoming basic training program. This challenge includes a written exam administered by the POST director; two weeks of Wyoming criminal law at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy, a firearms proficiency test, domestic violence course and use of force class at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and proof of CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) certification. Twenty officers and one dispatcher challenged and were certified at the appropriate certification level.

POST has established and maintains a recertification process for peace officers, detention officers, dispatchers, and coroners and their deputies. POST issued a total of 1,318 recertifications during this fiscal period: 757 were for peace officers, 236 were for detention officers, 270 were for dispatchers, and 55 were for coroners and their deputies.

POST has established training standards that accomplish the above initial certification and recertification processes. POST certified nine basic training classes during this fiscal period. POST received and certified 824 applications for in-service training classes throughout the state, with a total of 10,883 training hours. POST received 196 applications from personnel who want to become certified instructors so they may instruct the above training classes. POST uses an evaluation system from the class attendees to evaluate the quality of the training given and the quality of the instructors certified to deliver the training. There were 194,720 hours of training added to training files.

POST has established and maintains a decertification process for peace officers and detention officers. During FY00, POST received seven requests for officer decertification. POST opened case files on all seven and started decertification proceedings. After investigation by POST, two cases were closed by the

Investigative Committee with "No Further Action" to be taken, three officers were decertified, with two files pending action. One officer was denied initial certification and that denial was upheld by the commission. Also during FY00, two officers were placed into the medical inactive status. That status will require a full clearance from a medical doctor for POST to re-activate their certification.

During FY00, 258 tests were administered to applicants seeking employment in law enforcement; 211 applicants passed the examination and were placed on an employment hiring list, which is provided to any law enforcement agency in the state that wishes to use it as part of its employment procedure.

POST conducted three meetings during the year to handle the standard business of the commission. The director met twice during the year with agency administrators to discuss issues relating to training and certification. The director administered four promotional exams during the year. The POST director or his assistant instructed the POST regulations class to all basic classes during this year and represented the commission at the graduation ceremonies held at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy.

POST has become a partner with the Western Regional Institute for Community Oriented Public Safety (WRICOPS). POST was invited to become a partner with four other states: Washington, Idaho, Montana and South Dakota. It is funded year-to-year by a Federal COPS grant. POST has already realized numerous benefits in Wyoming from this partnership. Jackson, Laramie, Casper, Douglas and Sheridan have already completed assessments and were extremely pleased with the outcome. Lovell and Cheyenne are in the planning process to have assessments completed. Riverton and Guernsey have requests in to have an assessment team conduct a complete assessment of their departments and communities. POST has conducted six seminars in the state on community policing and problem solving. The new trend in law enforcement all across the country is to transform policing into the community-policing concept, either totally or partially. WRICOPS has received funding for another year, which just started, and POST looks forward to positive things from the partnership for Wyoming.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

POST has no proposed changes to its objective or its five strategies for the next fiscal period.

Attorney General's Office organization chart

